

ORD # 3054-69

TSD/BAB MEMO #123-69  
30 April 1969

MEMORANDUM FOR : Deputy Director, ORD  
ATTENTION : Chief, MBS/ORD  
SUBJECT : Research in Speech Analysis  
REQUIREMENT DESIGNATION: T VI-9-69

1. The research problem to be undertaken in this project is to investigate the physical attributes of recorded speech to determine if (and how) any of these attributes can be used to predict how a speaker would have scored on the [redacted] test. [redacted]

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Although it is not certain the research aims can be met, previous work in handwriting analysis strongly suggests that it might be possible. If successful, the potentially high payoff would seem to indicate that a pilot study to determine the feasibility would be worth-while at this time. All techniques are available and well within the state of the art; the project needs only to embody a well designed experiment to assemble a suitable data base and to test for statistically (and operationally) useful relationships between measurable speech variables and [redacted] scores. The experimental design is the critical part of the research and is included as part of this requirement. An essential support function will be the use of advanced techniques in the analysis of the physically measurable aspects of recorded speech. Considerable work has been done, particularly in Europe, in the area of relating speech behavior to personality. A thorough review of this work should be done as an early part of this project.

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2. This proposed research has been discussed with [redacted] Chief, MBS/ORD, who has indicated a strong interest in the initial findings which have been obtained in the study of handwriting-- [redacted] correlations and in the potentially high payoff, if similar correlations between speech (another cognitive-motor skill) and the [redacted] test can be demonstrated. In essence, if such relationships could be demonstrated, Agency capabilities in [redacted]

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[REDACTED]

could take a quantum jump.

3. The persons to be contacted for continuing liaison are:

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[REDACTED]

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[REDACTED]

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[REDACTED]

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[REDACTED]

Chief, TSD/D&E

Distribution:

Orig & 1 - Addressee

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